



October 2005 Edition

**Col James H Kasler Senior Squadron**  
**Indiana Wing – Civil Air Patrol**  
Lieutenant Colonel Larry Lopshire, Commander



## Civil Air Patrol Responds

Indianapolis - - Hurricane Katrina was the eleventh named tropical storm and first Category 5 hurricane of the 2005 Atlantic hurricane season. It first made landfall in Miami, Florida on August 25<sup>th</sup> as a category 1 hurricane. The nation breathed a sigh of relief as the damage was not so bad as initially feared. But in the following days, Katrina gained in strength as she crossed the warm waters of the gulf coast. On August 29<sup>th</sup>, Katrina made landfall again in New Orleans, Louisiana as a category 4 hurricane.

Civil Air Patrol answered the call. Individuals and units from all across the country, including right here in Indiana, responded in the wake of this horrible natural disaster. CAP members have flown hundreds of hours, and participated in the relief efforts in a tremendous number of ways. Following are some articles from around the country highlighting the efforts of CAP members. To date, there are over one thousand confirmed dead and the monetary costs are still being counted with the final number in the hundreds of billions of dollars. ?



## CAP Hurricane Relief Fund

Maxwell AFB AL - - Civil Air Patrol National Headquarters has established the CAP Hurricane Relief Fund to help with the extensive recovery efforts still underway in the wake of Katrina and Rita.

All funds collected will go directly to help CAP members and their families who have been affected by these two devastating hurricanes.

Donations can be made to the CAP Hurricane Relief Fund online at [www.cap.gov](http://www.cap.gov) or by mailing a check

-- made payable to "CAP Hurricane Relief Fund" --

CAP National Headquarters  
CAP Hurricane Relief Fund  
105 S. Hansell St.  
Maxwell AFB, AL 36112

?

## Alabama Flight deployed to Mississippi

**Teams hold chapel services, provide communication support, participate in rescue mission**

September 26, 2005

**Maj. Patricia Mitcham**  
Alabama Wing

ASHLAND, ALA -- Members of the Clay County Flight mobilized and deployed Sept.3 as Alabama Ground Team Two to Mississippi in support of the relief efforts from Hurricane Katrina.

Members of the team, consisting of Captain David Hester, Cadet Master Sergeant Joshua McCain, and Cadet Master Sergeant Travis Fulbright from Clay County along with Chaplain First Lieutenant Steven Sellers from Birmingham, provided chapel services, marshaled aircraft, provided communication support, and participated in a rescue mission

Continued on page – 2 –

## Col James H Kasler Senior Squadron

Continued from page – 1 –

in Ocean Springs, Miss.

The team then re-deployed to central Mississippi and established a forward base with CAP Alabama Ground Team One that consisted of 8 members, including 3 other cadets.

Both teams were tasked with assisting the local Emergency Management Agency in locating individuals listed as missing or distressed and used paper lists and a GIS/GPS handheld data collection device to determine the location, condition, and immediate needs of these individuals as identified by EMA. This forward base was one of three forward bases established by CAP and was manned entirely by the combined 12-person unit from Alabama.

The mission went from searching for missing individuals to conducting door-to-door surveys in a 444-square mile grid. Members also off-loaded supplies from helicopters for both the base and the nearby food distribution center operated by the Alabama National Guard, and distributed food and water to residents. Team Two also provided fuel re-supply to the Mississippi Wing Headquarters which hadn't been able to get fuel since the operation began.

"I'm just proud that I can help people in need, and that it gives me a sense of pride about who I am and what I do in CAP," said Cadet McCain, about his experience.

Team Two returned to Alabama Sept. 8 after a successful and productive deployment. ?



### CLC Coming SOON!

Don't miss your opportunity to take the upcoming Corporate Learning Course (CLC). To register, contact Captain Hugh Cameron (hcameron@projecttools.com)

Friday, 21-October 1800 – 2200  
Saturday, 22-October 0800 - 0500

## Chaplain's Corner

Dave Harness, Captain, CAP  
Col. James H. Kasler Seniors Squadron

In the past few years we have seen our country come under attack by the forces of evil and the forces of nature. One positive byproduct of these catastrophes is the great unification that came from all America during the first days following. For one bright moment the nation was not divided along partisan lines but we were all proud to be Americans pulling together for the common good.

The recent activities of the CAP in relief efforts after Hurricanes Katrina and Rita are commendable. Sometimes adversity brings out the best in all of us. All working together for the good of the few has a nice ring to it.

Recently I was asked to offer a prayer of safety for a class of 13 graduating firefighters at the fire department for which I act as Chaplain. I think the words of that prayer can be applied as well to the good men and women helping in the relief efforts in the south.

"In the past few years we have been introduced to a new phrase for many. That phrase is first responders. These are those that care enough for others that their personal lives may be put on hold for the well being and good of others. For these special people Father we ask your hand of safety.

We know that these people that give so unselfishly of themselves are some of the finest society has to offer. There are many, Lord, that look to the sets of Hollywood to find their heroes. There are many that look to the sports stadiums or music media for theirs. At this hour, however we look to those that really deserve the title "hero" and it is the ones that care the most about others around us.

It is for their safety and welfare that we now pray. You have said in your Word that the greatest love of all is a person that lays down their life for that of another. For this reason we not only pray for the responders but hold them in the highest of admiration.

We thank you in the name of your son. Amen."

Please continue to keep these folks in your thoughts and prayers along with the victims of these tragic occurrences.

?

-- Article reprinted from *The Sentinel*, October 2005

## October Is National Fire Prevention Month

This Year's Theme - "Candle With Care"

Used safely, candles can fill our homes with fragrance and create a calming and welcoming mood. It's easy to forget that candles are open flames. If safety precautions aren't followed or if a candle flame is exposed to something that can burn, the same inviting candles can start a deadly fire.

That's what happened in a Louisiana family's home in March 2005. Five adults and 10 children under 18 had just moved into a two-story townhouse apartment and were using tea lights for lighting until the power company turned on their electricity. During the night, a candle sitting on a windowsill ignited bedding in a room on the second floor of the house. One man, carrying a young child, escaped through a second floor window. In a desperate attempt to put the fire out, two family members moved the burning mattress down the stairs and put it on a pile of cardboard boxes while they tried to open the front door. Unfortunately, they had difficulties with the dead-bolt lock, and the burning mattress ignited the boxes, producing so much fire and smoke that escape through the front door became impossible.

The two who had brought the mattress downstairs escaped through a rear kitchen door and left the door open. One of them then went around the building to the front door and kicked the door in. The front of the structure was engulfed in the ensuing burst of flames. 11 of the 15 household members died. It was one of the deadliest fires in Louisiana.

Although unusually deadly, this fire was not an isolated incident. The number of candle fires in the United States has tripled since 1990. In 2002, an estimated 18,000 home fires started by candles were reported to fire departments. These 18,000 fires caused 130 civilian deaths, 1,350 civilian injuries, and an estimated property loss of \$333 million. The number of home candle fires stabilized from 2001 to 2002. The year 2002 was the first since 1995 that did not result in a new high.

Preventing candle fires is relatively easy. Make sure the candle is on a fireproof surface, that it's stable and in a place where it can't be bumped. Also keep flammable items away that might accidentally get in the flame because of a child or pet. The most important rule is:

**DON'T LEAVE A LIGHTED CANDLE UNATTENDED**  
**"Use Candles with Care—When you go out, blow out!"**

?

-- Article reprinted from *The Sentinel*, October 2005



## CAP-USAF Warns: Ballistic Recovery Systems A Potential Hazard to CAP

By Major Eric Webster, USAF, NCLR Director of Training

Do you realize there are will be over 40,000 ballistic recovery systems (BRS) in use on aircraft throughout the United States within the next two years? How does this affect the CAP first responder? An aircraft that crashes without deploying the rocket-extracted parachute contains an explosive-charge hazard. Depending on the level of damage the BRS system sustains during the crash, a significant level of risk may be involved for a first responder. CAP responders should be aware the hazard exists and take steps to deal it.

The steps are relatively simple:

1. **Identify** by knowing what to look for - external markings or labels. Look for BRS components scattered in the wreckage. For more information, visit: <http://www.brsparachutes.com/firstresponder.html>
2. **Notify** experts trained on how to "disarm" the BRS components. The 24-hour point of contact may be reached at: (651) 457-7491 or (800) 279-4322. ?

## Congrats Jenny!

Our own Jennifer Thompson has successfully completed her IFR check-ride. No clouds can stop her now! ?



## Commander's Corner



LTC Larry Lopshire  
Squadron Commander  
(File photo)

Let me again extend my thanks to all of you for the exceptional work done on behalf of the squadron and the Wing Commander as well. As you know, the Civil Air Patrol received a significant tasking as part of the hurricane relief efforts in Mississippi and the New Orleans areas. Part of the ability to professionally perform these missions was the result of training done individually and collectively at the squadron level. I want to

stress, therefore, how important it is to be a part of the training exercises that occur throughout the year at both the wing and squadron level. Next month, we will have a squadron level exercise as part of our regular meeting to get more folks up and ready to meet demands such as those of the past few weeks. We can never be resting on our reputation, but must be "Ever Vigilant". That means that we must maintain our level of commitment to keep current in our specialties and be mission ready. Part of that is to be committed to fulfilling our assignments as part of the alert team each week. Please be sure that you are available during the assigned duty time. If that is not possible, then arrange for a backup and be sure to tell your mission pilot who will fill that obligation. During my last week of alert duty, we had two ELT mission responses to make. So, things do happen and at the craziest times of the night.

Some very positive things do happen as the result of our being professionally ready. The Wing inspection this past weekend resulted in a "Successful or Satisfactory" rating from the CAP/USAF team that was here. From what I have heard, the Wing as a whole has shown a new face and was not what the inspectors expected in any way, shape or form. The positive attitude and the professionalism of the Wing as a whole were exceptional according to the team members. Perfection was not achieved, but I have only known of one person to be perfect, and it is not me. Improvement can be made and so, too, with our squadron, we must continue to strive for perfection. And the way to that end is hard, dedicated work.

The Training Facility/Hangar is progressing, slowly unfortunately due to the time available to do fundraising. The Legion letters did go out, and contact has been made at the National Headquarters level for support there. You are also getting some assignments to work on the research for the corporations so that we can tailor their request for funds. So, I hope that all of you will make it a point to ask anyone you come in contact with to help with our project. Dave Harness did so with a former employer and we did receive a modest donation that was greatly appreciated. Pennies build into dollars, etc. So, any and all donations are going to be used to fill the building fund jar.

Thank you again for all that you do. Let's continue to "Lead the Way". ?

### IMPORTANT DATES

#### October

Sat	15	9:00a	Monthly Squadron Meeting
Fri	21	6:00p	Corporate Learning Course
Sat	22	8:00a	(CLC)

#### November

Tue	8		Election Day
Sat	10	9:00a	Monthly Squadron Meeting
Thur	24		Thanksgiving Day

#### December

Sat	17	9:00a	Monthly Squadron Meeting
Sun	25		Christmas Day

### Col James H Kasler Senior Squadron

Commander: Lt. Col. Larry Lopshire  
Deputy Commander: Lt. Col. Tony Cecere

For member exclusive information, refer to our squadron group on Yahoo!Groups